

## Lake Almanor Watershed Group Meeting

July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Maidu Summit Consortium, Chester, CA

### Attendees

Carl Felts	Aaron Seandel
Peggy Fulder	Moorea Stout
Lorena Gorbet	Sherrie Thrall
Gina Johnston	Jacqui Cordova
Charlie Plopper	Dov Weinman

### Approval of Agenda and Minutes from May:

Meeting was called to order just after 1:00 PM, motion to approve June minutes was approved.

### Financials:

Moorea gave an update of the money from membership fees and shared spending on postcards, maps, pamphlets, etc. Aaron and Moorea announced their meeting with LAWG's first sponsorship level advocate. A member asked what advocates are given in return to their sponsorships and donations. Moorea shared that advocates are sent meeting minutes, cards, invitations to events, and quarterly reports prepared by the Sierra Institute in response to their support/sponsorship.

### Member Updates:

Dov shared Susan Riney's updates regarding the Shoreline Gardens Project. She plans to follow up with Lorena and Ben of the Maidu Summit Consortium (MSC) to explore potential sites on their recently acquired land. She made an inquiry with Rob Wade, administrator of the outdoor science programs with Chester's schools, to involve students in the project. She will also organize a field trip to explore Lake Tahoe shoreline garden entities for interested LAWG members and Lake Almanor community members.

Scott plans to come and do a sampling of the lake next week.

Aaron attended the Almanor Fishing Association meetings to provide and receive updates and to potentially ask for their support.

Dov shared a message from Keith Bouma-Gregson, co-lead of the Freshwater Harmful Algal Bloom Program for the State Waterboards. He has worked with NOAA and the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) over the last few years to develop satellite estimates of cyanobacterial blooms in lakes and reservoirs. The satellite tool can be found here: [https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/data\\_viewer/](https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/data_viewer/). He will be collecting water samples to ground-truth satellite data, which involves measuring chlorophyll-a and the color of the water. Accessing boats is a limiting factor and they are looking for partners to help support their work. The sampling would involve collecting 9 water samples from the lake, and would take a day in August or September. Group members agreed that Keith's work fits well with LAWG's mission and are interested in collaborating; Dov will connect Keith with Gina and perhaps John Crotty of the Almanor Fishing Association.

Charlie shared that the trails project is moving quickly, all the paperwork is completed, and the National Park Service is providing coordination and two volunteer landscape architects to design a series of trails around the lake. There will be a public feedback meeting Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> from 1-2pm at the Almanor

Recreation Center. Peggy/Charlie will connect with Moorea about more trail maps. Dov will follow up about Courtney's database of trail maps.

Lorena shared with members a bit about the MSCs work on the Humbug site; it will be run similar to a national park with information components.

#### Water Quality Monitoring:

Gina explained that Scott plans to do sampling the following week and shared the physical data from the previous week. There was a lot of algae for the first spring sampling, but not necessarily blue-green algae. Oroville and Horseshoe Lake (Chico) both have had algal blooms and Horseshoe has had some warnings for toxicity levels.

#### Development and Outreach:

Moorea revisited previous discussions about possible dates for a State of the Lake Event and shared that Susan Briner was enthusiastic about the idea of a Town Talk centered around the watershed. Fourth of the July fireworks were postponed until Labor Day and an idea for a festival was proposed at the Chamber Meeting. It could become an inaugural event with different activities such as a grebe walk, water trail kayaking, scavenger hunt, fire film, informational panel, and food cookoff. LAWG members need to decide if they want to participate, and if so, in what capacity. Members agreed to put together a booth with information. It was suggested that LAWG could collaborate on a booth with Sierra Institute or South Lassen Watersheds Group. Aaron and Jacqui offered to support booth planning. Moorea will follow-up with LAWG, Plumas Audubon, Sierra Institute, MSC, and potentially other relevant entities.

Aaron shared that John Crotty and the Almanor Fishing Association would like to connect more with LAWG and potentially support LAWGs mission.

#### LAWG Guidelines and Protocols

Dov asked the group to take a look at suggested revisions to the LAWG Guidelines and Protocols. He specifically asked how they are incorporating new members, how does an active participant become a voting member, and if members feel the need to change the current Member Participation Standards?

#### Lake Management Plan Updating

Members agreed to take their time updating the management plan. Peggy asked members to review the plans three goals to decide if they continue to be relevant and important to the group's mission. The group will continue to revise and eventually add more contemporary projects and pursuits.

#### Other Business

Sherrie shared updates regarding white-nosed bats and new information coming from FWP. There may be a public meeting in Chester in the next months for more information and public engagement.

Group discussed CalFire's responsibility area with regards to property inspections and current budget/capacity.

Lorena mentioned that Humbug Valley just waiting to get the deed and that the Forestry Parcel property on 89 will be next. There is another parcel on 147, but due to encroachment issues it is being held up.

Charlie shared an environmental health document from ETS describing how community members can protect themselves from negative of smoke during a wildfire. He plans to share with group members via email.

Moorea showed her SLWG brochure and asked if something similar should be made for LAWG. She will bring copies to the next meeting for LAWG members to review and discuss.

Action Items:

Susan: Follow up with Lorena and Ben of MSC regarding potential sites for garden project.

Dov: Connect Keith Bouma-Gregson with Gina Johnston, Aaron Seandel, and John Crotty for collaborating on Lake Almanor sampling.

Moorea: Follow up with different entities about partnering on Labor Day event/festival.

Aaron/Jacqui: Discuss options for LAWG participation or booth at Labor Day event/festival.

Dov: Make agreed upon revisions to LAWG Protocols and Guidelines.

Moorea: Bring brochure examples/options for LAWG members to review.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to adjourn is made and seconded.